

MINUTES FOR NAPRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS DEC 8TH

I. Meeting was called to order by Ken, N7IPB, at 11:23 AM. Others in attendance were Scott - N7FSP, Terry - N6RY, John - KA7TTY, Steve - N8GNJ, Claude - AB7G, Mac - W7MSR, and Leonard Livermore - no call.

II. Treasurer, Peter, WA7FUS, was not in attendance. Last months minutes were not read. Scott, N7FSP, has a new phone, 932-6564. Also, in-plant mail to him should be addressed to Scott Cronk/Crowell, at M.S. 46-86.

III. OLD BUSINESS

The secretary was asked to send a letter to the BEARS to thank them for printing our information sheet in their newsletter, but suggesting that they contact NAPRA before they do this in the future so we can be sure they have the latest version.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. N7ENT is the new BBS on the SEAW Node. Pete has ports on 144.99 MHz for the node, 145.79 MHz for local users in Port Orchard/Bremerton, and 223.42 MHz for BBS Only forwarding. There was discussion about the port on 145.79 MHz. This has been listed as experimental and for casual keyboard to keyboard connects. BBS operation is not consistant with that. Scott will suggest they consider relocating on 145.53 MHz.

B. N7DUO, Conrad, has submitted application for coordination on 144.93 MHz. After some discussion regarding the Skagit group, it was moved and passed to give Conrad the coordination on 144.93 MHz.

The Skagit group will be contacted and notified of our action. They will be told that we do not oppose what they were attempting to do, but can not continue to keep the frequency idle. We will consider any future proposals from them should their project again become active.

C. SEAW has a new call, N7FSP-8 (N7FSP-7 #SEAW on Backbone). Scott reported that the cabinet is a mess and needs to be re-packaged, cleaned up and locks installed. The equipment consisted of a 2M transceiver that belongs to Sammy, a 220 MHz transceiver and 3 TNCs that belong to NAPRA, and an IC-03 HT that belongs to Budd, WB7FHC. Scott also suggested that we consider a battery back-up system. Mac, W7MSR, mensioned he had paperwork on the system RC of Tacoma was using and would make copies available. Scott will look into it.

Scott also indicated that he was looking into getting a key so access would not have to be coordinated with Pete, KC7DT, in the future.

There was discussion about Tech VP expenditures without specific prior approval by the BOD. The Board re-affirmed that the Tech VP is free to spend up to \$50 in the performance of his duties without specific prior approval. He must then present receipts to the Board at the next meeting for reimbursement.

D. TAC the W7DK RC of Tacoma Node was discussed. Scott, N7FSP, indicated that NETROM Parameter #3 should be set to zero. It currently is set at 192 per the NETROM Manual. Scott explained that the network had several years ago to set Para #3 to zero and set the routing tables to only list routes to other nodes for which there was a well established, consistant, reliable path. Running with the system "open" tended to catch and list marginal paths. A node could be heard briefly during a 10 minute path which then faded away and was not heard again. The system would continue to list the route for up to 6 hours before it would be cleared out.

During this time many retries and time-outs would occur attempting to use the non-existent path.

Scott indicated that it was not policy to restrict the network, and if a new, or improved path was established which was reliable we would be glad to add it.

John, W7MSR, asked about routes into Oregon. Wasn't this what was preventing connect from up here into Oregon. Scott disagreed stating that the Param #3 subject had nothing to do with it. There simply was not a good consistent reliable path to there. He also pointed out that a user could still build his own path one hop at a time down to there, and if conditions happened to be good he should be successful. If conditions are not good (which is normal) it will time-out somewhere and not be successful.

E. Scott indicated that he had a node (SEATTLE / N7FSP-11) on 223.42 MHz for use by BBSs Only for forwarding. He hoped more BBS Operators would start using it.

F. SEA - The TNC still has not been fixed. It should happen soon. Steve, N8GNJ, asked if it might be possible to modify the 5.01 MHz repeater package since that project was now defunct, and set it up for use on simplex. Scott will contact Don, N7NKJ, with the proposal.

G. 220 MHz Band - John, KA7TTY, mentioned that there was a bulletin from the ARRL this week indicating that their petition for reconsideration of the low end of the 220 MHz Band had been turned down by the Court of Appeals. Our use of those frequencies in the future may be tenuous. This needs to be kept in mind when considering future plans.

V. Meeting adjourned at 12:38 PM.

John - KA7TTY, Secretary